

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 22, line 22, please replace the original paragraph with the following amended paragraph:

-- A synthetic α -synuclein partial structure peptide consisting of 10 amino acid residues of NH₂-Val-Gly-Gly-Ala-Thr-Thr-Thr-Gly-Val-Thr-COOH (SEQ ID NO: 23) was dissolved at 0.2 mg/ml in a 2 mg/ml solution of purified wild type α -synuclein, and incubated at 37°C. Aliquot of 10 μ l was collected in predetermined intervals. To the collected sample was added a buffer solution of 10 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.4, containing a fluorescent dye thioflavine T (TfT), which specifically binds to a fibril structure, in a final concentration of 25 μ M to make a volume of 100 μ l, and fluorescence spectrum was monitored immediately (Ex 440 nm; Em 450-550 nm). The fibril formation rate and the amount thereof were determined from the increase in the fluorescence intensity of TfT.